

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 087702

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DRAFTED BY EUR/WE:KHSIRLEY:JKB

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JUSTICE - ETOMKO

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 087702

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, BE

SUBJECT: LEFFERDINK AND WORLD INVESTMENT SERVICES DOCUMENTS

1. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IS SEEKING DEPARTMENT'S HELP IN OBTAINING DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH FORTHCOMING TRIAL OF ALLEN J. LEFFERDINK IN MIAMI, FLORIDA. LEFFERDINK HAS BEEN INDICTED FOR FRAUD IN CONNECTION WITH A SYSTEM OF MUTUAL FUNDS, BANKS, AND INSURANCE COMPANIES HE OPERATED. AS PART OF ALLEGED SCHEME LEFFERDINK ESTABLISHED WORLD INVESTMENT SERVICES, S.A. IN BRUSSELS WITH OFFICES AT 412 AVENUE LOUISE. IN CLOSING THAT OFFICE IN 1971, BELGIAN AUTHORITIES SEIZED DOCUMENTS FOUND THERE, AND, IN 1974, LEFFERDINK WAS FOUND GUILTY (IN ABSENTIA) OF FRAUDULENT BANKRUPTCY.

2. DOCUMENTS SEIZED BY BELGIANS ARE ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESSFUL PROSECUTION OF LEFFERDINK IN FLORIDA. IN EFFORT TO OBTAIN THEM, POSTAL INSPECTOR NORRIS PENLAND AND EDWIN TOMKO OF DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE CONSULTED WITH POLICE COMMISSIONER KREUSCH AND PROCUREUR MAZI IN BRUSSELS IN JANUARY 1975. WHILE THEY WERE ABLE TO REVIEW THE DOCUMENTS, THEY WERE INFORMED THAT AS THEY WERE NOW COURT DOCUMENTS AND MIGHT BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 STATE 087702

NEEDED FOR A FUTURE HEARING SHOULD LEFFERDINK RETURN TO

BELGIUM, THE DOCUMENTS COULD NOT BE BORROWED FOR COPYING AT THE EMBASSY. OFFICIAL COPIES COULD BE PROVIDED AT A COST

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OF \$0.45 PER PAGE, WHICH PENLAND AND TOMKO CONSIDERED UNREASONABLY EXPENSIVE. BELGIANS ADVISED THEM TO PURSUE ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN DOCUMENTS THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS.

3. EMBASSY SHOULD APPROACH APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES AND REQUEST USE OF DOCUMENTS FOR TRIAL IN FLORIDA. IT IS UNLIKELY THAT LEFFERDINK WOULD APPEAR IN BELGIUM DURING TIME TRIAL IS TAKING PLACE, AND DOCUMENTS WOULD BE PROMPTLY RETURNED AT CONCLUSION OF TRIAL. SHOULD BELGIANS BE UNWILLING TO LEND DOCUMENTS FOR TRIAL, EMBASSY SHOULD ASK TO BORROW LONG ENOUGH TO MAKE COPIES AT EMBASSY, PRESUMABLY AT SUBSTANTIALLY LOWER COST THAN THAT CHARGED BY BELGIANS. (DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WOULD PAY COSTS OF REPRODUCTION TO EMBASSY).

4. DOCUMENTS SHOULD BE IDENTIFIED TO BELGIANS IN FOLLOWING MANNER: JUDGMENT OF THE TRIBUNAL PREMIERE INSTANCE OF 13 SEPTEMBER 1974 AT 22 CHANDRE, CORRECTIONELLE, JUDGMENT NO. 7030 AND RELATED FILE NO. 11958. KISSINGER

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